Ser. No. 09/505,501 Filed: February 17, 2000 GAU: 3641

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please REWRITE claims 20 and 23 as follows:

20. (Twice Amended) The lacquer composition of claim 1, wherein said processed perforated propellant grains have an oval cross-section.

23. (Twice Amended) The lacquer composition of claim 7, wherein said processed perforated propellant grains have an oval cross-section.

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 19-24 remain in the application for consideration. Claims 20 and 23 are herein amended.

Rejections under 35 USC §112

Claims 20 and 23 were rejected under 35 USC §112, first and second paragraphs, for being indefinite and allegedly not providing support for the term "elliptical". To address the rejection, Applicants herein amend claims 20 and 23 to recite "oval" instead of elliptical. Applicants submit that an "oval" shape is shown in the drawings, Figures 4B and 5B, and therefore, these rejections are overcome.